

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 293492

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DRAFTED BY ISA/ED: CDR MCMICHAEL

APPROVED BY PM/ISP:L. BROWN

DDR&E - MR. PARKER

ASST SEC ARMY: MR. FREDERICKS

EUR/RPM - MR. REHFELD

PM/ISP - MR. ANDERSON

----- 098931

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

SRUSARSG CANBERRA

INFO USMISSION NATO

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PAGE 02 STATE 293492

TAGS: NATO, MARR, ETEL

SUBJECT: DOD DECISION ON FOREIGN PARTICIPATION IN SINGLE
CHANNEL GROUND AND AIRBORNE RADIO SUBSYSTEM VHG (SINGGARS-V)

REFS: A. DEPSECDEF MEMO, 10 MAR 76, SUBJ: SINGGARS-V;
B. MSG. DRCPM-GARS, 131800 MAY 76, SUBJ: DETERMINATION OF
FOREIGN INTEREST IN SINGGARS-V; C. DEPSECDEF MEMO, 15
OCT 76, SUBJ: SINGGARS-V

THIS MESSAGE IS IN FOUR PARTS.

PART I FOR ALL.

1. REF A WAS DECISION BY DEPSECDEF, FOLLOWING DSARC-I,
WHICH APPROVED THE INITIATION OF A NEW RADIO DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM BY THE ARMY. REF B, PARA 4B, ESTABLISHED THE
INITIAL GUIDELINES FOR FOREIGN GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION
IN THE SINGGARS-V PROGRAM. IN ADDITION, REF B REQUESTED
SELECTED ADDRESSEES TO ESTABLISH CONTACT AND ASSESS THE
EXTENT AND INTEREST OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENT INTENTION TO
PARTICIPATE. TO DATE REPLIES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM ALL
ADDRESSEES EXCEPT AMEMB ITALY. THUS FAR, THE UK, FRG,
AND NETHERLANDS ARE THE THREE GOVERNMENTS WHICH HAVE
EXPRESSED INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SINGGARS-V

ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. CANADA VERY PROBABLY WILL
REQUEST COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT (INTERDEPENDENT TYPE) AT
THE OUTSET OF FULL SCALE DEVELOPMENT, UNDER THE ABCA
PROGRAM.

2. THE LATEST DEPSECDEF MEMO, REF C, DIRECTS THAT ONLY
UK COMPANIES WILL BE FURNISHED THE RFQ BY THE ARMY AND
GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO BID FOR THE ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT
PHASE OF THE SINGGARS RADIO COMPETING WITH US INDUSTRY
FOR THE US ENTRY IN THIS COMPETITION.

3. AS A RESULT OF RECENT DECISIONS REGARDING THE
SINGGARS-V PROGRAM, THE FOREIGN PARTICIPATION METHODS
PREVIOUSLY TRANSMITTED BY REF B APPLY EXCEPT AS MODIFIED
BELOW.

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PAGE 03 STATE 293492

A. THE U.S. WILL PROCEED TO PREPARE AND SIGN MEMOR-
ANDA OF AGREEMENT WITH THOSE INTERESTED NATO GOVERNMENTS
WHICH HAVE INDEPENDENTLY DEVELOPED OR INTEND TO DEVELOP
CANDIDATE RADIOS WITH THE POTENTIAL OF MEETING THE
SINGGARS-V REQUIREMENT. COPIES OF THE ADVANCED DEVELOP-
MENT SPECIFICATION WILL BE FURNISHED TO INTERESTED GOVERN-
MENTS.

B. THE SELECTION OF THE SINCGARS-V CONTRACTORS, WHETHER U.S. OR FOREIGN, FOR ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT WILL BE BASED UPON THE RESULTS OF A FAIR TEST AND EVALUATION TO BE CONDUCTED BY U.S. ARMY DURING FY 80 USING COMMON CRITERIA FOR ALL CANDIDATES AT THE CONCLUSION OF ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT.

C. THE RADIO CANDIDATES WHICH WILL BE EXAMINED DURING TEST AND EVALUATION FALL INTO TWO CATEGORIES.

(1) U.S. SPONSORED CANDIDATES. THESE ARE RADIO CANDIDATES DEVELOPED UNDER U.S. FUNDED CONTRACTS. TEAMING OF NATIONAL CONTRACTORS WITH FIRMS OF OTHER NATO NATIONS IS ENCOURAGED.

(2) INDEPENDENTLY DEVELOPED CANDIDATES. THESE ARE CANDIDATES DEVELOPED AND FUNDED BY NATO GOVERNMENTS OR THEIR INDUSTRY FOR USE BY THEIR ARMED FORCES.

D. CANDIDATE SYSTEMS MUST BE SECUREABLE, SHOULD BE CAPABLE OF WORKING IN AN E' ENVIRONMENT AND CONFIGURABLE AS A BASIC RADIO. OPTIMIZATION, ON A LIFE CYCLE COST BASIS, IS ENCOURAGED AMONG COMSEC, ECCM AND THE RADIO. THE COMMON COMSEC HARDWARE TO BE USED FOR COMPETITIVE EVALUATION WILL BE THE VINSON EQUIPMENT.

E. ACQUISITION PLANNING WILL ALLOW FOR THE CO-PRODUCTION OF SINCGARS-V RADIOS IN THE U.S. OR NATO COUNTRY AS EITHER A PRIMARY OR SECONDARY SOURCE FOR U.S. AND NATO USE. THIRD COUNTRY SALES RESPONSIBILITIES WILL BE NEGOTIATED AT THE TIME OF CO-PRODUCTION AGREEMENT.

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PAGE 04 STATE 293492

F. THE SINCGARS-V SYSTEM WILL BE DESCRIBED FUNCTIONALLY TO STIMULATE THE INNOVATIVENESS OF INDUSTRY TO MEET CRITICAL USER REQUIREMENTS.

G. PM SINCGARS WILL BE THE U.S. AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR DRAFTING AGREEMENTS DESCRIBED IN PARA 3. ABOVE.

PART II FOR AMEMB BONN AND AMEMB NETHERLANDS.

4. BASED ON YOUR REPLIES TO REF B, REQUEST FOLLOWING ACTIONS.

A. INFORM GOVERNMENT COUNTERPARTS OF MESSAGE CONTENTS AT PARA 3 ABOVE.

B. PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO WHEN AND WHERE PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS CAN COMMENCE. WE ARE PREPARED TO INITIATE NEGOTIATIONS AS EARLY AS MID-JAN 77. YOUR ASSISTANCE IS REQUESTED IN ARRANGING FOR THE ATTENDANCE OF THE APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENTAL PARTIES. YOUR REPLY IS REQUESTED NLT 10 DEC 76.

PART III FOR AMEMB LONDON.

5. UNDER THE TERMS OF THE 24 SEP 75 COOPERATION AGREEMENT ON ACQUISITION OF DEFENSE EQUIPMENTS, UK COMPANIES CAN BE FURNISHED THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL BY THE ARMY AND WILL BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO BID FOR THE ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT PHASE OF THE SINCGARS-V RADIO. SPECIFIC ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ARE BEING DEVELOPED.

PART IV FOR ACTION ADDRESSEES.

6. TO KEEP THE NATO COUNTRIES AND AUSTRALIA INFORMED AS TO THE SINCGARS-V PROGRAM, REQUEST INFORMATION AT PARA 3 BE PROVIDED TO FOREIGN COUNTERPARTS. ROBINSON

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